

Annual Meeting of the WRC University Caucus

McCourt School of Public Policy, 9th Floor

Georgetown University

125 E Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001

Tuesday, April 22, 2025 | 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Meeting Agenda

8:45 a.m. Breakfast

Welcome and Introductions**WRC Report to Affiliates for 2024–2025: Investigations, Impacts, and Outcomes for the Workers Who Sew Collegiate Apparel**

We will report on the last year's work across the collegiate supply chain, including a global overview of complaints, investigations, and impacts; an in-depth look at key factory cases in Southeast Asia, South Asia, and Central America; an update on the life-saving work of the Pakistan Accord; organizational updates; and more.

Presentations from the WRC Team, videos featuring workers' comments, and discussion.

10:45 a.m. Break

Tariff Turmoil: What's Going on, What Comes Next, and What Will All of This Mean for Businesses, Consumers, and Worker Rights?

We will provide information and analysis on the dramatic shift in US tariff policy and the twists and turns over the last 90 days, including the Trump Administration's rationale for imposing high tariffs on trading partners; the direction in which policy on trade and international finance appears to be headed; and the potential impacts on consumers, the retail sector, and the rights of workers around the world.

Expert analysis from an outside trade and tariff policy specialist and the WRC team, followed by discussion.

12:00 p.m.	New Developments in Student Labor Rights Activism: What Is SILS? In response to requests from affiliate schools, we will devote this session to information sharing and discussion of the campus group Students for International Labor Solidarity (SILS), including its recent emergence, its relationship to United Students Against Sweatshops (USAS), and its engagement with universities and the WRC. <i>Perspectives from university representatives and the WRC team, plus useful historical context on student activism and its impact on licensing, labor rights, and university policy.</i>
12:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:30 p.m.	Quiz (with Prizes)
2:00 p.m.	Sweatshirts and Smokescreens: Grappling with Management Deception in Labor Rights Investigations We will provide an overview, with case examples, of how the WRC's investigators deal with a significant problem in the apparel industry: attempts by factory managers to deceive auditors and investigators, by using fake books, forged correspondence, coerced consent forms, fraudulent statements from friendly government officials, and other tools of the trade. <i>Presentations from the WRC team, followed by discussion.</i>
3:00 p.m.	Break
3:15 p.m.	Open Session Open time to dig deeper into one or more of the meeting topics or discuss any issue of interest or concern to attendees.
3:45 p.m.	The Central Java Gender Justice Agreement: How University Codes Led to a Groundbreaking New Program We will discuss the origins, elements, and impact of the innovative agreement to protect workers from sexual harassment, negotiated with support from Fanatics, at two factories in Indonesia where university logo apparel was produced under the Fanatics and Nike brands. <i>Presentations by the WRC team, followed by discussion.</i>
4:20 p.m.	Concluding Remarks
4:30 p.m.	Adjourn